

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



Region II Federal Building 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278

July 26, 2011

Jason A. Helgerson State Medicaid Director Deputy Commissioner Office of Health Insurance Programs New York State Department of Health Empire State Plaza Corning Tower, Room 1466 Albany, New York 12237

RE: DMCH: BPW

Re: New York SPA #11-14

## Dear Commissioner Helgerson:

This is to notify you that New York State Plan Amendment (SPA) #11-14 has been approved for adoption into the State Medicaid Plan with an effective date of April 1, 2011. SPA #11-14 concerns the rates of payment for personal care service agencies. Specifically, it provides for additional funding to agencies for the purpose of improving recruitment and retention of non-supervisory workers, or workers with direct patient care responsibility. Funding will be for providers in programs which furnish services in local social services districts which include a city with a population of over one million persons, and also those districts which do not include a city with a population of over one million persons.

This SPA approval consists of two Attachment 4.19-B Pages submitted with the State's June 15, 2011 electronic submission to the CMS SPA Mailbox; namely, Attachment 4.19-B, Page 6(a)(i) and Page 6(a)(i)(1).

This amendment satisfies all of the statutory requirements at sections 1902(a)(13) and 1902(a)(30) of the Social Security Act and the implementing regulations at 42 <u>C.F.R.</u> 447.250 and 42 <u>C.F.R.</u> 447.272. Enclosed are copies of SPA #11-14 and the HCFA-179 form, as approved. Also enclosed is a letter containing coverage issues identified by CMS staff as well as some editorial suggestions. CMS has agreed to permit the State to address these issues in the context of responding to the SPA #10-38 companion letter issues and welcomes the opportunity to work with you and your staff in resolving these issues.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this SPA further, please contact Shing Jew or Barbara Waugh of this office. Mr. Jew may be reached at (212) 616-2426 and Ms. Waugh at (212) 616-2366

Sincerely,

/s/

Michael Melendez Associate Regional Administrator Division of Medicaid and Children's Health

Enclosures: SPA #11-14

HCFA-179 Form

Companion letter to SPA#11-14

cc: J. Ulberg

G. Critelli

S. Jew

K. Knuth

D. Mathurin

P. Mossman

M. Schervish

B. Waugh